

Amendments to the Claims:

1-28. Cancelled

29. (Currently Amended) A system for acquiring digital content, the system comprising:

a processor configured to process instructions and to access a memory;

a digital-content-accessing component that is configured invoked by a selection interface, provided by a digital content supplier, to:

download one or more components of the digital content; receive and

authenticate the one or more components of the digital content; and on a client computer, and to

store the one or more received downloaded and authenticated components in an unusable form in the memory on the client computer, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is further configured to be invoked by a selection interface provided by a digital content supplier; and

a license component that is incorporated within a component of the digital content and that is configured to:

communicate communicates with a remote licensing broker to verify that a user is licensed to receive request a license certificate to the digital content and that generates a useable form of the digital content from the one or more components of the digital content.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the selection interface is configured to:

be instantiated on the client computer, wherein the selection interface provides to:

provide a description of the digital content;~~and wherein the selection interface provides for selection, by the user, of the digital content for~~ and to enable acquisition of the digital content from a remote digital-content vendor.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 30₁ wherein the selection interface ~~is one~~ includes at least one of:

an executable file that ~~displays~~ configured to display a graphical user interface;

data received by the client computer that is ~~rendered by a program running on the client computer to display a~~ enable display of the graphical user interface;

a web page displayed on the client computer by a browser application ~~running on the client computer; and~~

a text file stored on the client computer that includes links or references to the digital content that ~~allow the user to~~ enable access of the digital content by ~~a communications means including~~ at least one or more of: an Internet browser, email, mail, telephone, fax, and a file transfer protocols protocol application.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29₁ wherein the digital-content-accessing component is an executable file that, ~~when executed on the client computer, accesses and receives~~ configured to download the components of the digital content from remote computer systems.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 32₁ wherein the digital-content-accessing component is ~~transmitted~~ transferred from a remote computer to the client computer through a communications medium.

34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 32, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is generated locally on the client computer from a component list.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the digital-content-accessing component ~~authenticates~~ is further configured to:

authenticate a received digital-content component by generating a message digest from the received digital-content component and comparing the generated message digest with a stored message digest.

36. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein at least one received digital-content component is encrypted.

37. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the license component ~~requests~~ is further configured to:

request an electronic license certificate from the remote licensing broker.

38. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 37, wherein, ~~when the license component receives~~ is further configured to:

receive an electronic license certificate from the licensing broker, ~~the license component decrypts any encrypted, and to~~

decrypt encrypted received digital-content components.

39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the license component ~~executes~~ is further configured to:

execute a purchase transaction ~~to purchase~~ including a purchase of a license for the digital content ~~on behalf of the user.~~

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein components of the digital content ~~may include~~ includes one or more of:

- an encrypted executable file;
- an encrypted data file;
- a user interface library;
- a purchasing request library;
- a security information file; and
- an electronic license certificate.

41. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein the digital content includes one or more of:

- digitally encoded executable code;
- digitally encoded source code;
- a digitally encoded video program;
- a digitally encoded audio program;
- digitally encoded music;
- a digitally encoded game;
- a digitally encoded multi-media program;
- a digitally encoded movie; and
- a digitally encoded text document.

42. (Currently Amended) A system for supplying digital content by a digital-content supplier, ~~the system comprising:~~

- ~~a server that provides a selection interface to a requesting client computer;~~
- one or more servers that provide server computer systems configured to provide, to a requesting digital-content-accessing component running ~~on the~~ on a requesting client computer, components of the digital content ~~in at~~ including at least one of which a incorporated license component, ~~is incorporated;~~ and

~~a means for providing wherein the incorporated license component is configured to provide license information to a remote licensing broker to license enable licensing of the digital content.~~

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 42, wherein the incorporated license component is further configured to provide the license information as a request for an electronic licensing certificate that enables the licensing of the digital content selection interface is instantiated on the client computer, wherein the selection interface provides a description of the digital content; and wherein the selection interface provides for selection, by a user, of the digital content for acquisition from a remote digital-content vendor.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 42, wherein the incorporated license component is further configured to provide the license information, including a purchase option, a indication of a method of payment, or both, to the remote licensing broker selection interface is one of:

- ~~an executable file that displays a graphical user interface;~~
- ~~data received by the client computer that is rendered by a program running on the client computer to display a graphical user interface;~~
- ~~a web page displayed by a browser application running on the client computer;~~
- ~~a text file stored on the client computer that includes links or references to the digital content that allow a user to access the digital content by a communications means including one or more of an Internet browser, email, mail, telephone, fax, and file transfer protocols.~~

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 42, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is an executable file that, when executed on the client computer,

receives configured to download the components of the digital content from the digital-content supplier.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 45, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is ~~transmitted~~ transferred by the digital-content supplier system to the ~~requesting client computer~~ computer.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 45, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is generated locally on the requesting client computer from a component list supplied by the digital-content supplier.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 29~~ claim 42, wherein at least one received digital-content component is encrypted.

49. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 29~~ claim 42, wherein components of the digital content ~~may include~~ includes one or more of:

- an encrypted executable file;
- an encrypted data file;
- a user interface library;
- a purchasing request library;
- a security information file; and
- an electronic license certificate.

50. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 29~~ claim 42, wherein the digital content includes one or more of:

- digitally encoded executable code;
- digitally encoded source code;
- a digitally encoded video program;
- a digitally encoded audio program;

digitally encoded music;
a digitally encoded game;
a digitally encoded multi-media program;
a digitally encoded movie; and
a digitally encoded text document.

51. (Currently Amended) A system for licensing digital content, ~~the system~~ comprising:

a licensing server computer system ~~that receives and stores~~ is configured to:
receive and store license information from a remote digital-content
supplier; ~~that generates~~
generate an electronic license certificate for the digital content; and ~~that~~
provides

provide the electronic license certificate ~~for the digital content to a~~
requesting license component ~~running on of a client computer, wherein the requesting~~
license component is capable of causing the client computer to: ~~that, upon receiving the~~
electronic license certificate, ~~generates~~

generate a useable form of the digital content ~~on the client~~
~~computer from the~~ from one or more digital-content components received from the
remote digital-content supplier in accordance with the electronic license certificate.

52. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein at least one digital-
content component a portion of the digital content is encrypted.

53. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the license
component ~~requests~~ is further configured to:
request an electronic license certificate from the licensing server
computer system.

54. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 53, wherein ~~when the license component receives~~ is further configured to:

receive an electronic license certificate from the licensing server computer system; and to, the license component decrypts any encrypted,
decrypt encrypted digital-content components in accordance with the received electronic license certificate.

55. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the license component ~~executes~~ is further configured to:

execute a purchase transaction to including a purchase of a license for the digital content on behalf of a user.

56. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein ~~digital-content components may include~~ digital content includes one or more of:

- an encrypted executable file;
- an encrypted data file;
- a user interface library;
- a purchasing request library;
- a security information file; and
- an electronic license certificate.

57. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the digital content includes one or more of:

- digitally encoded executable code;
- digitally encoded source code;
- a digitally encoded video program;
- a digitally encoded audio program;
- digitally encoded music;
- a digitally encoded game;

- a digitally encoded multi-media program;
- a digitally encoded movie; and
- a digitally encoded text document.

58. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the license component is further configured to:

- receive the requested license certificate; and
- generate a useable form of the digital content from the one or more components of the digital content according to the received license certificate.

59. (New) A system for licensing digital content, comprising:

- a licensing server computer system that is configured to:

- receive and store license information from a digital-content supplier;
 - generate an electronic license certificate for the digital content that enables a client computer to access the secured digital content according to license parameters of the electronic license certificate; and
 - provide the electronic license certificate to a requesting license component of the client computer.

60. (New) The system of claim 59, wherein at least one secured digital content component is encrypted and wherein the electronic license certificate further enables:

- decryption of at least one secured digital content component.

61. (New) A system for acquiring digital content, comprising:

- a processor interfaced to a memory; and

- a digital content acquisition component configured to:

- store, in the memory, at least a portion of the digital content in an unusable form;

communicate with a licensing broker to obtain a licensing certificate conveying the right to use at least the stored portion of the digital content; and

in response to the obtained licensing certificate, generate a useable form of at least the stored portion of the digital content from the unusable form.

62. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the digital content acquisition component is further configured to:

receive the digital content.

63. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the digital content acquisition component is further configured to:

present a selection interface on the system which provides a description of the digital content to enable acquisition of the digital content from a digital-content vendor.

64. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the digital content acquisition component is generated on the system from received digital content, and is further configured to:

access and receive additional digital content from remote computer systems.

65. (New) A computer-readable storage medium with an executable program stored thereon, wherein the program instructs a client computer to perform steps enabling licensing of digital content, comprising:

storing at least a portion of the digital content in an unusable form on the client computer;

communicating with a licensing broker to obtain a licensing certificate to at least the portion of the digital content; and

in response to the obtained licensing certificate, generating a useable form of at least the portion of the digital content from the stored unusable form.

66. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 65, wherein the steps further comprise:

receiving the digital content on the client computer.

67. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 65, wherein the steps further comprise:

presenting a selection interface on the client computer which provides a description of the digital content to enable acquisition of the digital content, that is stored on the client computer, from a digital-content vendor.

68. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 67, wherein the steps further comprise:

generating a digital-content-accessing component on the client computer from the digital content, and wherein the digital-content-accessing component is an executable file configured to:

access and receive additional digital content from a remote computer system.

69. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 68, wherein the steps further comprise:

generating a message digest from the generated digital-content-accessing component; and

comparing the generated message digest with a stored message digest to enable verification of the digital content.

70. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 65, wherein the licensing broker is a remote licensing broker.

71. (New) A method for acquiring digital content by a client computer, comprising:

storing at least a portion of the digital content in an unusable form on the client computer;

communicating with a licensing broker to retrieve a license to at least the stored portion of the digital content; and

in response to the retrieved license, generating a useable form of at least the portion the digital content on the client computer from the stored unusable form of the received digital content.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

presenting a selection interface on the client computer to provide a description of the digital content and to enable acquisition of the digital content from a digital-content vendor.

73. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

generating a digital-content-accessing component on the client computer from the digital content, wherein the digital-content-accessing component is an executable file configured to access and receive additional digital content from a remote computer system.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, further comprising:

generating a message digest from the generated digital-content-accessing component; and

comparing the generated message digest with a stored message digest to enable verification of the digital content.

75. (New) A system for acquiring secured digital content, comprising:
a processor interfaced to a memory; and
a digital content acquisition component configured to:
download the secured digital content from a digital-content vendor;
store, in the memory, at least a portion of the downloaded secured digital content in an unusable form;
transmit a request to a licensing broker for a license certificate to the stored portion of the secured digital content;
receive the license certificate in response to the transmitted request; and
in response to the received license certificate, access the stored portion of the secured digital content in accordance with license parameters of the received license certificate.

76. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the digital content acquisition component is further configured to:
present a selection interface on the system which provides a description of the digital content to enable acquisition of the digital content from the digital-content vendor.

77. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the digital content acquisition component is generated on the system from received digital content, and is further configured to:
download additional digital content from a remote computer system.

78. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the digital content vendor is a remote digital content vendor.

79. (New) A computer-readable storage medium with an executable program stored thereon, wherein the program instructs a licensing server computer system to perform steps enabling licensing of digital content, comprising:

receiving license information from a digital-content supplier;

generating an electronic license certificate for the digital content based on the received license information; and

providing the electronic license certificate to a requesting license component of a client computer, wherein the requesting license component is configured to, upon receiving the electronic license certificate, generate a useable form of the digital content from one or more digital-content components received from the digital-content supplier.

80. (New) A method for licensing digital content, comprising:

receiving license information from a digital-content supplier on a licensing server computer system;

generating an electronic license certificate for the digital content based on the received license information on the licensing server computer system; and

providing the electronic license certificate from the licensing server computer system to a requesting license component of a client computer, wherein the requesting license component is configured to, upon receiving the electronic license certificate, generate a useable form of the digital content from one or more digital-content components received from the digital-content supplier.

81. (New) A method for licensing digital content, comprising:

requesting a first computer system to provide a download file that enables coordination of retrieving and licensing of the electronic data;

receiving, in response to the request, the download file;

employing the received download file to retrieve the electronic data from a second computer system;

employing the received download file to request and receive a license to the retrieved electronic data from a third computer system; and
using the retrieved electronic data in accordance with the received license.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the download file includes at least one of a component list, executable boot program, download component, and licensing code.